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and at length in so serious a degree, that the legislature of the nation has thought it necessary to withdraw our citizens and property from it, either to avoid or to prepare for engaging in the general contest. But for this timely precaution, the Petitioners and their property might now have been in the hand of spoilers, who have laid aside all regard to moral right. Withdrawing from the greater evil, a lesser one has been necessarily encountered; and certainly could the legislature have made provision against this also, I should have had great pleasure as the instrument of its execution; but it was impracticable by any general and just rules to prescribe, in every case, the best resource against the inconveniences of this new situation. The difficulties of the crisis will certainly fall with greater pressure on some description of citizens than others, and on none perhaps with greater than on our seafaring brethren. Should any means of alleviation occur within the range of my duties, I shall with certainty advert to the situation of the Petitioners, and in availing the nation of their services, aid them with a substitute for their former occupation.—I salute them and yourself with sentiments of sincere regard.

TH. JEFFERSON."

#### THE ADDRESS OF NAPOLEON TO THE LEGISLATIVE BODY.

*Messieurs, the Deputies of the Departments, to the Legislative Body.*

"The code of laws, laying down the principles of property and of civil freedom, which forms the subject of your labours, will be adopted as the sentiment of Europe. My people already experience the most salutary effects from them.

"The latest laws have laid the foundation of our system of finance. That is a monument of the might and greatness of France. We shall henceforward be able to meet the expenditure which might be rendered necessary, even by a general coalition of Europe, from our yearly income alone.

"Never shall we be reduced to have recourse to the fatal expedients of paper money, of loans, or of anticipations of revenue.

"I have, in the present year, laid out more than a thousand miles of road. The system of works which I have established for the improvement of our territory, will be carried forward with zeal.

"The prospect of the great French family, lately torn to pieces by opinions and intestine rancour, but now prosperous,

tranquil, and united, has affected my soul in a remarkable manner. I have felt that, in order to be happy, I should in the first place be assured that France was happy.

"The peace of Presburgh, that of Til-sit, the assault of Copenhagen, the plans of England against all nations on the ocean, the different revolutions at Constantinople, the affairs of Spain and Portugal have in various ways, exercised an influence on the affairs of the world.

"Russia and Denmark have united with me against England.

"The United States of America have rather chosen to abandon commerce and the sea, than to acknowledge their slavery.

"A part of my army has marched against that which England has formed in Spain, or has disembarked. It is a distinguished favour of that Providence, which has constantly protected our arms, that passion has so far blinded the English Councils, that they abandon the defence of the seas, and at last produce their army on the Continent.

"I depart in a few days to put myself in person at the head of my army, and with God's help, to crown the King of Spain in Madrid, and to plant my Eagles on the forts of Lisbon.

"I have only to praise the sentiments of the Princes of the confederation of the Rhine.

"Switzerland experiences more and more the benefits of the act of mediation.

"The people of Italy give me grounds for nothing but expressions of satisfaction.

"The Emperor of Russia and myself have had an interview at Erfurth. Our first thought was a thought of peace. We have even resolved to make some sacrifices, in order to enable the hundred millions of men whom we represent, if possible, the sooner to enjoy the benefits of the commerce of the seas. We are agreed, and unchangeably united, as well for peace as for war.

"MESSIEURS DEPUTIES—I have ordered my ministers of finance, and of the general treasury, to lay before you an account of the receipt and expenditure of the year. You will therein see, with satisfaction, that I have not felt it necessary to increase the tariff with any impost. My people shall experience no new burthen.

"The Speakers of my Council of State will submit to you many plans of laws, and among others all those which have relation to the criminal code.

"I rely constantly on your co-operation."